

CITY OF DEL REY OAKS

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City of Del Rey Oaks
Findings / Responses
2001 Monterey County Grand Jury
Monterey Bay Contamination / Storm Water Run-off Permit Requirements

Findings:

1. While Agencies may find it easy to write the plan; implementation of the six items on the list will require extensive research and planning. In some instances, Agencies may be forced to uncover new funding sources to meet some of the permit requirements. For example, surveys may be needed to determine which run-off areas require preventative action, and additional Agency funds may be required to purchase equipment or hire contractors to develop or implement plans.

To implement this action, we will find it necessary to uncover new funding sources, and use our consultant engineer, and planners. We would be willing to participate in a regional approach to the methodology.

2. Of all the Agencies surveyed, only the City of Monterey has a fully developed plan to meet the Phase II NPDES requirement. In 1993, the city approved a stormdrain utility fee to fund the development and implementation of the permit requirements. The city has since developed a comprehensive plan that addresses all the minimum measures outlined by the U.S. EPA. Monterey has also been a leader, along with the state Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the City of Santa Cruz, the Coastal Commission, and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments in creating the Model Urban Run-off Program guide, which assists other cities in creating permit plans.

No response is required.

3. Local Agencies have joined together under the recently formed Storm Water Subcommittee to explore a possible partnership for meeting the NPDES requirements. The objective of the subcommittee, formed by the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency, is to explore the advantages, disadvantages, and feasibility of having a regional permit, rather than individual permits for each entity.

The City of Del Rey Oaks fully recognizes the need to participate in the regional phase II permit process. City staff is involved in the TAC Committee and plan to work with MRWPCA and the other cities involved

with the subcommittee in completing the permit application for submission to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board for issuance of the Regional Permit.

4. With the exception of the City of Monterey, responses to the Grand Jury letter suggested that Agencies might not be fully aware of the scope of their responsibility under provisions of the NPDES permit requirements.

Del Rey Oaks is fully aware of the Phase II NPDES permit requirements and has been involved in Storm Water TAC meetings. The Del Rey Oaks staff, consultants, and contract engineer are working towards compliance with Phase II by March 2003.

5. Noncompliance with the NPDES permit requirements by March 10, 2003, leaves agencies vulnerable to lawsuits from citizens, as well as sanctions for violations of the Clean Water Act. Those sanctions can include monetary penalties.

Del Rey Oaks is working toward compliance with the NPDES phase II permit process. City Staff and consultants are completely aware of potential penalties.

Response to Recommendations:

1. Agencies requiring an NPDES Phase II permit immediately begin all necessary preparations for meeting the federal requirement. Full engagement on this issue, including developing auxiliary funding sources if they are necessary, must begin now to ensure the best chance of meeting the requirements by March 10, 2003.

Del Rey Oaks has been involved in the Storm Water TAC through our contract Engineer. City Staff, contract staff, and consultant planners are preparing our timeline to complete the implementation and management plan.

2. Local agencies use the City of Monterey as a resource in meeting Phase II requirements. The Model Urban run-off Program guide can be utilized by all Agencies in meeting the federal mandate.

The City of Del Rey Oaks staff and Contract City Engineer is using the City of Monterey Model Urban Runoff Program Manual as a working document to prepare our management plan.

3. Agencies work with the Storm Water Subcommittee to develop a regional plan to meet the permit requirements. Such a plan could allow Agencies to realize certain economy of scale savings and more successful implementation of NPDES.

The Del Rey Oaks City Council in the next few months will discuss the Phase II Program. At that time, staff will ask the City Council to authorize our participation in the Regional Phase II permit process.

4. Agencies study Phase II requirements carefully to ensure they are will prepared to meet any necessary requirements. With the exception of Monterey, all agencies cited in the response section must demonstrate a formal plan for meeting the six minimum requirements outlined in the report.

The City of Del Rey Oaks are aware of the Phase II NPDES requirements and are working on completing preparation of a program that will meet the Phase II requirements. The City will develop a program specific to the needs of the City of Del Rey Oaks, and continue to participate in the Phase II regional permit process.

Sincerely

Acting City Manger

03/20/01